

VZCZCXRO7817

PP RUEHAG RUEHAST RUEHDA RUEHDBU RUEHDF RUEHFL RUEHIK RUEHKW RUEHLA  
RUEHLN RUEHLZ RUEHNP RUEHPOD RUEHROV RUEHRS RUEHSL RUEHSR RUEHVK  
RUEHYG

DE RUEHVB #0385 1751211

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

P 241211Z JUN 09

FM AMEMBASSY ZAGREB

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9338

INFO RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE 1099

RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS ZAGREB 000385

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

DEPT FOR EUR/RPM Jessica Fisher

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OSCE](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [KDEM](#)

SUBJECT: OSCE HDIM: NO ISSUES TO RAISE FOR CROATIA

REF: STATE 59944

¶1. (SBU) In response to reftel, Post believes the Government of Croatia generally respects the human rights of its citizens. Basic freedoms such as democratic elections, freedom of religion, and freedom of press exist within the country. Corruption and transparency are problematic areas for the government. The judicial system continues to suffer from a case backlog, though some progress was made during the year, and trials do not always meet the highest standard. Societal violence and discrimination against ethnic minorities, particularly Serb and Roma, remains a problem, but the government has taken some steps to address these issues. Implementation of anti-discrimination laws remained spotty, resulting in continued discrimination in the hiring of ethnic minorities, particularly Serbs, at the local public administrative level. On these issues, Post will continue engagement with the GOC bilaterally.

BRADTKE